

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 NEA-09 AID-05 COME-00

TRSE-00 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 H-02 OMB-01

DIWY-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 SIL-01 LAB-04 AGR-05

ERDA-05 NRC-05 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 OES-03 SR-02 ORM-01

CU-02 /111 W

----- 102228

R 210825Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2442

INFO /USUN NEW YORK 0498

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

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PARIS FOR UNESCO; ROME FOR FODAG; VIENNA FOR IAEA/UNIDO; MONTREAL  
FOR ICAO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, UNDP, RO

SUBJ: CERP 0008 - EVALUATION OF UN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS: ROMANIA

REF: A. STATE 064907 B. BUCH 1269 (APRIL 2, 1974) C. BUCH  
1132 (MARCH 31, 1973) D. CERP 0008

1. FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON US ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES IN ROMANIA  
ARE KEYED TO CATEGORIES OUTLINED REFTTEL A.

2. ROLE OF UNDP IN UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM. UNDP RESREP  
DEVARAJAN (SRI LANKA) COORDINATES ALL MAJOR UN ASSISTANCE  
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PROJECTS IN ROMANIA. DEVARAJAN EXHIBITS CLOSE FAMILIARITY

WITH PROGRAMS UNDER HIS SUPERVISION AND APPARENTLY MAKES REGULAR VISITS TO PROJECTS BEING CARRIED ON OUTSIDE BUCHAREST. DEVARAJAN'S RELATIONS WITH ROMANIAN OFFICIALS, PROJECT MAMFGDLS AND UN AGENCY FARSV POSSIBLY LESS CLOSE THAN THOSE OF HIS PREDECESSOR ALEXANDER ROTIVAL, BUT HE HAS BY NOW DEVELOPED GOOD WORKING RELATIONS AND SHOWS INCREASED ADEPTNESS AT FATHOMING IDIOSYCRASIES OF ROMANIAN BUREAUCRATIC STRUCTURE. AT MOST RECENT MEETING WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS, DEVARAJAN INDICATED THERE HAD BEEN LITTLE COORDINATION ON IBRD-FUNDED PROJECTS, HOWEVER. THIS PARTICULARLY SURPRISING SINCE BOTH UNDP AND IBRD INVOLVED IN WATER MANAGEMENT/SOIL RECLAMATION AREA (UNDP IN UPPER MURES VALLEY DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND IBRD IN TWO RECENTLY APPROVED LOANS TOTALLING \$100 MILLION FOR IRRIGATION PROJECTS IN DIFFERENT AREAS). WHILE CENTRALLY DIRECTED ROMANIAN PLANNING SYSTEM CAN NORMALLY BE COUNTED ON TO PREVENT DUPLICATION OF EFFORT, CLOSER COORDINATION MIGHT HAVE PRODUCED USEFUL CROSS-TRANSFER OF RELEVANT EXPERIENCE.

3. COORDINATION OF ALL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. UNDP REP MAINTAINS CONTACT WITH ROMANIAN CENTRAL PLANNING AUTHORITIES (AS WELL AS FOREIGN MINISTRY AND ECONOMIC OFFICIALS), THEREBY ENSURING THAT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS ARE APPROPRIATE TO ROMANIAN NEEDS AND NOT DUPLICATIVE. GOR VALUES UN PRESENCE BOTH FOR SYMBOLIC VALUE AND FOR BENEFITS TO ECONOMY, THUS IS IN GENERAL HIGHLY COOPERATIVE. JOB DESCRIPTIONS FOR LONG-TERM VISITING SPECIALISTS ARE WORKED OUT BY RESREP JOINTLY WITH PROJECT MANAGERS AND ROMANIAN OFFICIALS. DEVARAJAN COMMENTED IN FUTURE IT MAY BE ADVISABLE TO SEEK HIGHER-LEVEL SPECIALIST FOR SHORTER VISITS, WITH SUBSEQUENT FOLLOW-UP, RATHER THAN LONGER STAYS IN ROMANIA. SOME DIFFICULTY EXPERIENCED IN FINDING SPECIALISTS WITH SUFFICIENTLY HIGH QUALIFICATIONS WILLING TO COMMIT THEMSELVES FOR LONG-TERM RESIDENCE. SOME DIFFICULTY REMAINS IN OBTAINING ADEQUATE GOR INTERNAL COORDINATION AT WORKING LEVEL IN CASE OF PROJECTS INVOLVING SEVERAL GOR AGENCIES, BUT HIGH-LEVEL GOR COORDINATION IS CONSIDERED SATISFACTORY.

4. ROLE OF RES REP VIS-A-VIS OTHER UN SYSTEM ACTIVITIES. RES REP'S ROLE CONFINED LARGELY TO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, BUT HE IS IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH HEADS OF UN INFORMATION CENTER (SHARES UNDP BUILDING), UNESCO REGIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER, JOINT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ROMANIAN/UNIDO CENTER FOR COOPERATION IN CHEM/PETROCHEM INDUSTRIES OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND UN DEMOGRAPHIC CENTER ESTABLISHED AFTER AUGUST 1974 POPULATION CONFERENCE IN BUCHAREST. RES REP HAS NOT BEEN CALLED ON TO PLAY DISASTER RELIEF OR REFUGEE ROLE.

5. COUNTRY PROGRAM REVIEWS. ROMANIA UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAM REVIEWED ON PROJECT-BY-PROJECT BASIS FOR FIRST TIME JUNE 1974.

CURRENT YEAR'S REVIEW NOW BEING PREPARED. IN 1974, FOR EACH PROJECT, REVIEW WAS CARRIED OUT BY RES REP, PROJECT MANAGER, AND APPROPRIATE GOR OFFICIALS, USING TRIPARTITE REVIEW SYSTEM. CURRENT ASSESSMENT SHOWS THAT IMPLEMENTATION HAS BEEN MOVING ALONG RAPIDLY, WITH \$5.5 MILLION OF \$7.5 MILLION IPF FOR 1973-77 PERIOD HAVING ALREADY BEEN SPENT. THIS YEAR'S REVIEW WILL FOCUS ON CONSEQUENT NEED TO EFFECT ECONOMIES AND PERHAPS TRANSFER CERTAIN PROJECTS INTO NEXT PERIOD TO REMAIN WITHIN LIMIT.

6. APPRAISAL OF PROPOSED PROJECTS. COMMENTS ON PROJECTS IN COUNTRY PROGRAM WERE SUBMITTED REF C. EMBASSY MAINTAINS REGULAR CONTACT WITH RES REP.

7. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION. MANAGEMENT TRAINING CENTER ESTABLISHED WITH ILO SUPPORT IS MOST SUCCESSFUL UN VENTURE IN THAT IT HAS BECOME KEY ELEMENT IN GOR MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM. RES REP ALSO PLEASED WITH PROGRESS OF PROJECT TO DEVELOP ROMANIAN TOURIST INDUSTRY BY TRAINING MID-LEVEL MANAGEMENT AND STAFF. OPERATION HAVE NOW BEEN MOVED TO NEW SITE IN TRAINING HOTEL NEAR BUCHAREST FAIR GROUNDS, WHICH ALSO HOUSES RECENTLY ACQUIRED COMPUTERIZED RESERVATION SYSTEM. PROBLEM AREAS IN OTHER PROJECTS ARE OBTAINING SUITABLY QUALIFIED GOR PERSONNEL, INCLUDING THOSE FOR FELLOWSHIP GRANTS FOR STUDY OR TRAINING OUTSIDE ROMANIA. DELAYS ARE ALSO SOMETIMES EXPERIENCED IN OBTAINING APPROPRIATE HOUSING FOR VISITING SPECIALISTS. ALLOWANCES POSE NO PROBLEM SINCE THEY ARE ADMINISTERED DIRECTLY BY UNDP.

8. PROJECT EVALUATION. REMARKS UNDER PARA 5 APPLY.

9. WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT. RES REP IS WELL AWARE OF NEW PRIORITIES BUT HAS TO DATE BEEN UNABLE TO ELICIT CORRESPONDING GOR SUPPORT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN THIS AREA. FOR EXAMPLE, OF 70 PERSONS SENT ON FELLOWSHIPS FOR TRAINING OR STUDY ABROAD DURING PERIOD OF CURRENT COUNTRY PROGRAM, ONLY 4 HAVE BEEN WOMEN. EFFORTS ARE CONTINUING TO IMPROVE ON THIS RECORD.

10. FOLLOW-UP WITH UNDP AND EXECUTING AGENCIES. NONE REQUESTED AT THIS TIME.  
BARNES

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CERP 0008  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BUCHAR01710  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750139-0044  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750430/aaaabblx.tel  
**Line Count:** 162  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 064907, 75 BUCH 1269, 75 (APRIL 2, 75 197C  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CERP 0008 - EVALUATION OF UN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS: ROMANIA  
**TAGS:** EAID, RO, UNDP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006